

canadian camping



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Page 5

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June 1981



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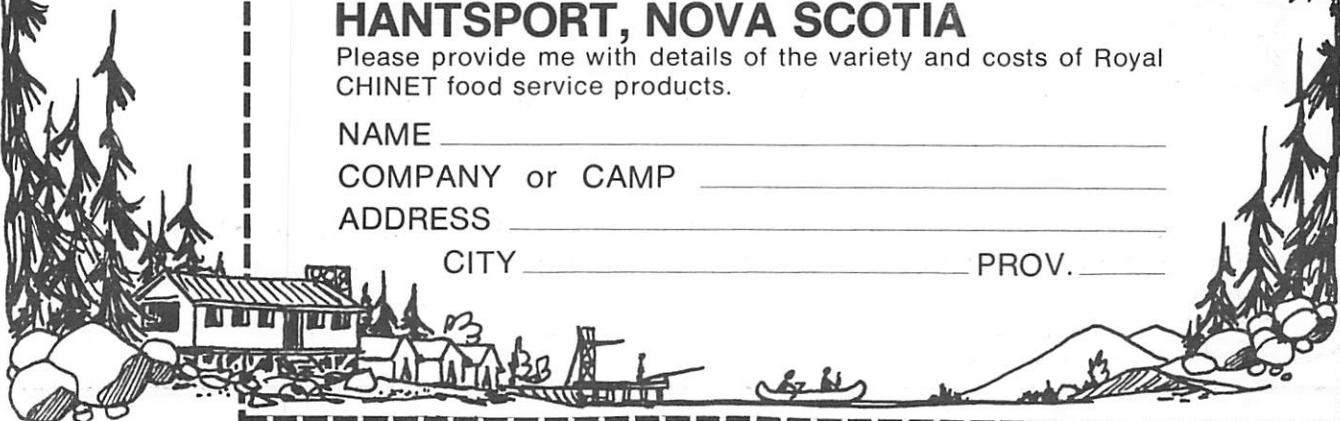
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C.C.A. PRESIDENT

Jocelyn Palm was installed as the new C.C.A./A.C.C. President at the Annual Meeting. This year's Annual Meeting and Spring Board Meeting were held in Moncton, New Brunswick, May 21-24 in conjunction with the New Brunswick Camping Association Conference.

Jocelyn Palm brings a wealth of camping experience to the C.C.A./A.C.C., a staff member at Camp Memphremagog, Glen Bernard Camp and the Ontario Camp Leadership Centre in past years; she now owns and directs Glen Bernard Camp in Ontario. While President of the O.C.A. (1977-1979), Jocelyn was a member of the C.C.A./

A.C.C. Board of Directors and she was Managing Director of "Canadian Camping" Magazine from 1974 to 1977. Her position as Executive Director of the Royal Life Saving Society of Canada brings her in contact with people and organizations across the country who share similar concerns and ideals with the C.C.A./A.C.C.

Jocelyn will be working with the new Executive to implement the Action Plan adopted by the C.C.A./A.C.C. Board last January. Members of the 1981-1983 Executive are:

Cliff Labbett - Past President	Gary Luthy - Western Vice President
George Matthews - Eastern Vice President	Jan James - Secretary
Jane McCutcheon - Central Vice President	George Ross - Treasurer

Members may contact Jocelyn Palm through the National Office of the C.C.A./A.C.C.

C.R.C.A.

The Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association announced that the revision of their Standards Manual is now available.

Prepaid orders should be sent to: C.R.C.A., Box 54, Hyde Park, Ontario N0M 1Z0.

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RESIDENT CAMPING IN THE YUKON

Ted Dinsley is a long-time member of the British Columbia Camping Association. Currently, he is the Membership Chairman of B.C.C.A. These are his comments from a recent trip to the Yukon where he met with several people active in camping. Thanks for the information, Ted!

"I have just returned from my trip to the Yukon and am happy to report to you on the situation in the far north.

I understood that there was some evidence of a Yukon Camping Association several years ago and that C.C.A. records of 1972, mentioned a Mr. W.A. Farley of Yellowknife, N.W.T. in connection with a Territorial Youth Camping Association. Both of these are now defunct.

I talked to Rev. Donald G. Lewis (United Church of Canada) of 6108 6th Avenue, Whitehorse, Yukon. Mr. Lewis told of an inter-denominational church camp at Braeburn Lake, outside of Whitehorse. The camp is thirteen years old.

At Marsh Lake, about 20 miles south of Whitehorse, there is a resident camp operated by Bethany Tabernacle. The Minister is Paster Ted Bonk, 35 Tay Street, Whitehorse.

Ian Passmore of the Pentacostal Tabernacle at Watson Lake, is the name given in connection with a Christian camp in that more south-easterly district of the Yukon. Mr. Passmore's address is Box 187, Watson Lake, Yukon, Y0A 1C0. This operation may be affiliated with the Camp Yukon mentioned above.

Northern Evangelical Fellowship, with Pastor Gordon Gauchy of Watson Lake is apparently inerested in resident camping, but I could not learn of the extent of his present program.

Rev. D.G. Lewis of Whithorse mentioned that there was a camp council made up of representatives of the various denominations promoting Braeburn Lake Camp. It would appear that there is some strength behind this operation, and if there was a thought of promoting the organization of a Territorial Association in the Yukon, this group might form an appropriate starting point. Rev. Lewis seemed to be quite interested in the Canadian Camping Association program.

I could not say that the above camps include all the resident camps in the Yukon. There may be several more of which I did not learn during my short visit. I would suggest that the above list would include one half or two-thirds of the resident camps in the Yukon."

Condensed from Rev. E.J. Dinsley's Letter to Marjorie Booth, C.C.A. Executive Director.

PUBLICATIONS

The Canadian Camping Association is happy to announce the publication of several new Canadian books which are available from our bookstore and order service.

The first in the series of C.C.A. "How To" monographs - available in both French and English.

How To Series

"How To Promote Your Camp"
"Composting for Pleasure and Profit"

La Série Comment Faire

"Comment promouvoir votre camp vacances"
"Le compostage pour le plaisir et la gain"

Each monograph is sold for 75¢ alone or one may purchase both titles in either French or English with a C.C.A. three ring binder for \$4.00.

Just off the press!

When the Wilderness Beckons - A Canoe Tripping Handbook, by Catherine Ross, Deborah Hutton and Pamela Dunbar. This concise book contains all one needs to know to plan, prepare and enjoy a canoe tripping holiday with family or friends. Watch for a complete review of this book in the October issue. 105 pp. \$6.95.

Canoe Routes of Ontario, a definitive guide to more than 100 canoe routes in the province, is published by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Areas Branch in connection with McClelland and Stewart. Illustrated, in both colour and black and white, a large scale map is included. 110 pp. \$9.95

The Nurse and the Health Program at Camp by Mary I. Casey, B.Sc.N. A new, revised and expanded edition of her successful manual for camp nursing. 101 pp. \$6.50

Other new books since the C.C.A. Catalogue was published in December 1980 are:

<u>Camps, Their Planning and Management</u>	\$ 19.95	(reviewed in April "Canadian Camping")
<u>Concise Book of Ropes and Knots</u>	2.95	
<u>Concise Book of Sailing</u>	2.95	
<u>Cookout Manual</u>	3.00	

New American Camping Association publications carried by the C.C.A. are: Raindrops Keep Failing on My Tent, a Rainy Day Book, by Joy MacKay - packed with 100s of Great Ideas of What to Do in Camp when it Pours...\$3.30 and Condensed Camp Standards...\$1.25

The above prices reflect a price increase on all A.C.A. Publications. Please add 25¢ to the listed price of all A.C.A. books under \$6.00 and 10% to the price of those above \$6.00. This raises the price of some of the most popular A.C.A. books as follows:

Acclimatization	\$ 4.75	Ec sketch	\$ 5.25
Acclimatizing	5.75	Fifty Years of Res. Outdoor Ed..	16.45
Basic Camp Management	8.25	Goodtimes Around the Campfire ..	3.00
Basic River Canoeing	3.50	Guide to Canoe Camping	5.20
Campcraft Book	5.20	Sunship Earth	10.95

We regret that exchange rates and transportation costs make these increases necessary.

Other price increases are:

Campfire Programs with Jack Pearse	\$5.50	Sing One More Time with Jack Pearse	5.50
Camp Program Ideas	9.00	Small Boat Sailor's Bible	4.50
Clouds on the Clothesline	6.75	Teaching Riding at Summer Camp	4.25
Complete How To Book of Ind. Craft.	6.50	Whittling and Woodcarving	4.75
Cooperative Sports and Games	7.75	Weaving with Reeds and Fibres	3.95
Cows Tails and Cobras	9.00	<u>Discontinued Titles:</u> Beyond Competition,	
Games for Grown-ups	5.25	Eskimo Inuit Games, Save the Earth, Snow	
Handbook of Skits and Stunts	9.00	Sculpture and Ice Carving, Summer Camping,	
Kinhaven Cookbook.....	8.00	a Parent's Guide.	
Sing with Jack Pearse	5.50		

WILDERNESS TRAVEL LEADERSHIP COURSE



by Andrew Sinclair

Sunny Alberta, land of money and mountains, and site of the 1981 National Wilderness Travel Leadership School. When we got off the plane in Calgary however, it was pouring rain, and after a two-hour drive brought us to Yamnuska Centre, the Calgary YMCA's outdoor recreation headquarters, we had to take our host's word for it that we were here in the mountains -- fog hid all but the trees around us from view.

The course got off to a fine start, however, as the twelve participants from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia introduced one another and took part in a Japanese silent sharing ceremony outdoors in all the rain and snow.

The major activity the following day was a discovery hike up a nearby mountain, during which just about everyone discovered that perhaps their navigation skills weren't quite as sharp as they had thought. A fondue dinner back at the Centre that evening, complete with wine, added a nice touch to the day's activities.

On the third day, it was finally proved that we were not in fact in Saskatchewan, as the fog lifted to reveal the Rockies in all their glory, and we took advantage the new found visibility to practice triangulation and other aspects of mountain navigation, as well as learning emergency response procedures, planning the next day's hike and discussing the generic leadership model that provided the basis for the whole course.

The weather gods smiled the next day, providing us with a gorgeous blue sky and lots of sunshine for our hike up Mount Yamnuska, a mountain about 15 miles from the Centre. The first part of the climb was fairly easy, although steep, and then it was time to put our decision-making skills into action; we could either go around the mountain or over it. The latter course was eventually decided upon, and it proved to be a fine choice, as the climb up the mountain in the snow and sunshine turned out to be an experience that not even our most wobbly-kneed participant would have missed for the world. An unexpected amount of snow below the summit prevented us from in fact crossing over the mountain, but we reached a summit of our own and it was agreed that we had done pretty well for a bunch of easterners and prairie types.

The next day was spent at the Centre where we attended more input sessions run by the instructors on such subjects as tripping nutrition, thermal balance, and menu planning. There were also formal one-to-one instructor/participant meetings during which the instructor received feedback from the participants and answered any questions we might have.



Then it was time to plan and prepare for the four-day hike that would allow us to test our new or refreshed skills and concepts in a practical situation.

The actual trip got under way around noon the next day, beginning again at the foot of Mount Yamnuska. Rain was threatening but sincerely believing that there is no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather, and the experience is not what happens but what one does with what happens, we set off determined to have a good time. As had been the case on the two previous trips, the instructors played a low-key role, with members of the various traveling groups taking turns leading their group. After the day's traveling was over, there were on-to-one evaluation sessions with an instructor for the day leaders.



We all reached our first day's objectives without undue difficulty and only a refreshing burst of rain. The down-pour that night was perhaps less refreshing, but when we were preparing to leave the campsite the next morning, it was bright and sunny out, and some group leaders were advocating the use of sunscreen. Fifteen minutes later we were standing in a torrential thunder shower that went on for some hours. As they say in the mountains, if you want to see what the weather's going to be like, stick around for five minutes.

Progress that day was pretty good however, although one particular easterner gained the dubious title of "bog king" for his rather marshy route choice. Breaks were taken along the way for simulated accidents which gave the group leaders a chance to evaluate their own emergency response abilities and to be evaluated by the instructors. It was at about this time that the concept of generic leadership began to fall into place for most of the participants, as they applied it to the situations they encountered along the way, and thought about it in terms of their own programs.

On the third day we headed back in the general direction of home, planning to meet at a river junction some ways down the valley. Meet we did, but unfortunately, two of the groups ended up on one side of the river and one on the other. With the steady rain filling the river and melting snow in the mountains, the river was quite violent, and we watched the water level rise four inches in twenty minutes to the point where whole trees were being washed off the bank and swept downstream, it was decided that a crossing was not feasible. However, with one group tossing over the ingredients for a blueberry cheesecake and the other group heaving across a container of amoretto, and enjoyable evening was had by all.

The next day, unfortunately, we had to hike out, an exercise that was again accomplished without major trauma, and when we were all gathered, at last back at the foot of Yamnuska, a short sharing ceremony illustrated perfectly the great experience that the hike had been.

From that point on, it was pretty much all over but the shouting, as we concentrated on evaluation of ourselves and the program, with a final series of one-to-one evaluations, and after a final touch of magic -- a picnic in a field -- we all, reluctantly, went our separate ways.

Andrew Sinclair was a participant in the 1981 C.C.A. National Wilderness Travel Leadership School. This is his report to the Camping Association of Nova Scotia

White Water Canoeing

SHOULD CAMPS OFFER WHITE WATER CANOEING ?

The decision one makes regarding what high risk activities and styles he adopts for himself are entirely different from those he makes for someone else's children under his guardianship. Here are some of the dangers of whitewater canoeing and the precautions a Camp Director must take before including this activity in the camp program.

PRECAUTIONS

At the National School, where some of the best canoeists in the country are taught to be instructors, the following precautions are taken:

1. A day of practice on the lake using specialized strokes that would be required in whitewater.
2. Practice at capsizing and rescue drill in safe, slow moving water.
3. Proper life jackets and helmets were worn at all times.
4. Each canoe had the proper long bow and stern painters.
5. Rescue personnel with throwing lines were positioned along both banks and rescue canoes and crews were waiting above and below the rapids.

Camps should not attempt white water instruction with any less than the above, but equally important is the need to educate all campers and staff as to hydrodynamic principles and the dangers that can be waiting in the rapids. It does no good if a camper from a capsized canoe is drifting or swimming toward a strainer or souse hole if the guide is the only one who knows what a strainer or souse hole is....

DANGERS

All staff and campers on a canoe trip encountering white water (whether planning to shoot or not) should be trained to detect and avoid these dangers.

1. Foot-trap

Foot lodged between rocks by an unwarned novice attempting to stand in moving water. These along with strainers are the greatest killers.

2. Strainers

Stationary man-made or natural obstacles that allow the water but not bodies to pass through, i.e. fallen trees.

3. Souse-hole or backwash

Back flowing water formed by an obstacle (rock or drop) producing continued circular recycling of water and trapped canoes and canoeists. The backwash below ledges, near dams, etc. is exceptionally dangerous since there is no escape hatch at the ends because they stretch across the entire width of the river.

4. Trapped by canoe

A submerged canoe, full of water can exert several tons of pressure on anyone caught between it and a stationary object, depending on the speed of the current.

5. Drowning due to head wound

Unaware novices not wearing helmets have drowned by being knocked unconscious either by rocks in the river or by other canoes coming through the rapids prematurely.

6. Swollen rivers

Increased volume and speed of flow can create strainers, undercut and fell trees. It may also muddy the water, thereby hiding obstacles.

7. Hypothermia

Tipping in the middle of a large ice-cold lake with no rescue is more dangerous than going over Niagara Falls. One hasn't a chance. Even on hot days in the spring, the penetrating cold can lead to death in a very short time. (Ed. note: Canadian Camping April 1981)

8. Lightening on the lake

9. Attempting to rescue people trapped in a backwash

10. Undercut bank or wave

11. Surfacing under a log boom

12. Stuck under a thwart or tangled in line or straps

13. Falling into rapids from the shore, especially when wearing boots

14. Whirlpools

A wild river is like a wild animal - indecipherable unless one knows it and what to look for. Something as large as a giraffe or the great blue whale can be harmless, whereas something as small as a cobra, black widow spider or piranah can be deadly. The largest standing waves in the world (15 - 20 feet high in the Ottawa River) could be harmless, while a tiny, one foot dam on the Humber River can be a killer, constantly taking lives. As your family pet, with rabies becomes amenable, so an unscouted river, even one that has safely carried thousands of canoeists, can change as the result of a rain storm or fallen tree. A river alone cannot create a tragedy... but tragedy may await the laughing, naive and unaware campers and staff innocently floating along, uneducated and unable to detect and avoid the insidious dangers lurking beneath the surface or around the next bend.

Whether or not your camp participates in the exciting sport of white water canoeing, I urge you to undertake the training education and precautions outlined above for all campers and staff involved in any canoeing program.

The foregoing is a summary of a session given by Larry Bagnell at an O.C.A. Conference. Larry was Director of Algonquin Experience, a program for disadvantaged youth conducted by the Toronto YMCA and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

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A Dream Come True

On March 4, 1981 - the year of the handicapped, a group left Winnipeg airport, on a Boeing 747 for Florida to make a dream come true for five mentally handicapped.

Terry and Sandy Burkhalter and their four young children with two volunteer chaperones undertook to spend a week together with their five charges to experience the joys of a vacation in Florida. Terry is Executive Director of "Camps with Meaning" for the Conference of Mennonites in Manitoba and President of the Manitoba Camping Association.

There was Evelyn, age 71, sweet, appreciative, uncomplaining, who prayed out loud in a childlike fashion for each of us every night.

Esther, age 66, who was all prepared to have a good time, loved teasing and being teased. She was frightened of escalators and the whole airport heard her just prior to going on one.

Connie, who was deaf, age 22, managed to be happy most of the time. She was ecstatic when she could play in the water.

"Stormin Norman", our energetic hungry teenager, loved everybody. His excitement and joy was infectious.

Helen, a waitress, age 43, immaculate, organized, independent, was a great help keeping the group together, and helping when there was a difficulty.

Disneyworld proved to be a fantasy-filled day. The group was delighted by fairies, ghosts and pirates. At "Wet and Wild", some sat and watched while Stormin Norman and the children zipped down the giant slides having a marvelous time. Connie loved splashing in the water and letting the surf hit her.



Other highlights included meeting Don Jonas, former quarterback for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, a walk along the ocean, shopping, swimming at the hotel pools, fishing and a visit with Winnipeg friends, Walter and Eleanor Loewen. We became a family of 13, ages 4 to 71, white, brown and red from too much sun. People in restaurants knew when we arrived, an obvious lively group, noisy, exuberant and hungry. We were treated with genuine hospitality and courtesy.

It was such an action-packed trip that we were all weary and ready to go home at the end of the week. Evelyn missed her dolls and the people at home. Esther was tired and missed home. Connie was ready to go home for a good rest. Helen had enjoyed the change from her waitressing job, but Norman was ready to stay another six months.

We believe that they came home with many good memories that they will keep forever. We, the chaperones (Terry, Sandy, Julie and myself) had experienced the love and trust that the mentally handicapped give so freely. We were reminded again of the dignity and worth of each human being. We gave of ourselves and received much in return. It was a dream come true.

This article was contributed by Miss Ingrid Froese, University student and member of the Charleswood Mennonite Church and a member of the group.



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legend of the white canoe

In the days of old, long before the deep solitudes of the West were disturbed by the white men, it was the custom of the Indian warrior of the forest to assemble at the Great Cataract and offer a human sacrifice to the Spirit of the Falls. The offering consisted of a white canoe full of ripe fruits and blooming flowers, which was paddled over the terrible cliff by the fairest girl of the tribe who had just arrived at the age of womanhood.

It was counted an honour by the tribe to whose lot it fell to make the costly sacrifice and even the doomed maiden deemed it a high compliment to be selected to guide the white canoe over the falls. The only daughter of a chief of Seneca Indians was chosen as a sacrificial offering to the Spirit of Niagara.

The young girl calmly steered her tiny bark toward the centre of the stream, while frantic yells and shouts arose from the forest. Suddenly another white canoe shot forth upon the stream, and, under the powerful impulse of the Seneca chief, flew like an arrow to destruction. It overtook the first; the eyes of the father and daughter met in one last gaze of love, and then they plunged together over the thundering cataract into eternity.